(b) if so, the details of modus operandi followed alongwith the details of cases that have come to light in the last three years;

(c) the amount of revenue lost by the State; and

(d) what measures Government propose to take to deal with situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (d) Some customers who were obtaining petroleum products on concessional sales tax basis are alleged to have been diverting these products for the purpose other than the intended use thereby evading sales tax. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a case in the matter on 23rd May, 2000 at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Estimated demand for Cooking Gas

3030. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present estimated demand for cooking gas vis-a-vis gas connections provided as per latest review, state-wise;

(b) the estimated number of gas connections to be provided during the current year with State- wise break-up in general and in detail for Maharashtra;

(c) whether Government are providing gas connection on priority basis in rural areas and in tribal areas in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details of marketing action plan for Maharashtra for the current year with location, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) The total number of waiting list registered with LPG distributors of the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies in the country as on 1.12.1999 was about 93 lakhs. The State-wise details of the waiting list is given in the statement (*See* below).

Government have a plan to release 1 crore LPG (domestic) connections during the calendar year 2000 which will liquidate the waiting list in all the States as on 1.12.1999 including Maharashtra.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Statewise details of pending waiting list

STATES	WAITING LIST (AS ON 1.12.1999)
ANDHRA PRADESH	994278
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	1167
ASSAM	32995
BIHAR	482377
DELHI	0
GOA	40019
GUJARAT	494208
HARYANA	251783
HIMACHAL PRADESH	0
JAMMU & KASHMIR	0
KARNATAKA	413798
KERALA	862785
MADHYA PRADESH	552324
MAHARASHTRA	837248
MANIPUR	5755
MEGHALAYA	1134
MIZORAM	2817
NAGALAND	1743
ORISSA	178482
PUNJAB	699424
RAJASTHAN	584270
SIKKIM	0
TAMIL NADU	1192428
TRIPURA	1755
UTTAR PRADESH	1137580
WEST BENGAL	545138
TOTAL :	9313508
UNION TERRITORIES	
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	12828
CHANDIGARH	0
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	0
DAMAN & DIU	0
LAKSHADWEEP	0
PONDICHERRY	0
TOTAL :	12828
ALL INDIA :	9326336